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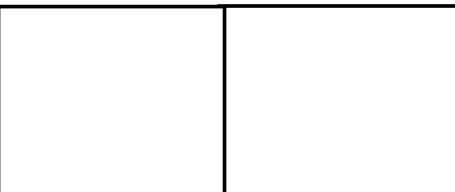
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Railroad Institute; Railroad Construction



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1. The Czechoslovak railroad net is being improved and altered for strategic purposes. In order to handle the problems connected with it a railroad institute or university was set up in Prague in 1952. It has four faculties:
  - a. Railroad Construction
  - b. Mechanization of railroads
  - c. Electrification in Railroad Work
  - d. General Technology of Traffic
 Courses run through ten semesters, and the participants wear railroad uniforms.
2. The most important strategic railroad construction under way is connected with the tunnel near Bajunov [sic] in east Slovakia where many bridges are also being built. As many as 5,500 to 5,700 men are currently at work on the project. The tunnel is expected to be completed during the early months of 1954.
3. Under Soviet pressure there is to be an exchange of Czechoslovak and Polish railroad personnel. The Polish and Czech transport ministries are to work out the details. Railroad men from each country will spend three months in the other. High pay will be the rule, in order to encourage volunteering. Only Party activists will be accepted.

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